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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ASSOCIATION OF HOME APPLIANCE MANUFACTURERS
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AHAM

OCTOBER MAJOR APPLIANCE SHIPMENTS UP 0.3% FROM LAST YEAR, MICROWAVE OVENS HAVE BEST YEAR EVER

CHICAGO -- October shipments of 2,350,300 major appliances were slightly greater than shipments for the same month last year, reports the Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers (AHAM). October is the first month to show an increase over shipments in the corresponding month of the previous year since August of 1981.

The gain, a modest 0.3%, was paced by microwave oven shipments of 470,600, up 8.0% over October 1981 and the highest for any month in history. The previous record month for microwave ovens was October 1980 when 453,000 units were shipped.

Gains were also reported in four other product categories: refrigerators, electric ranges, food disposers and dehumidifiers.

Home laundry products and dishwashers trailed the October 1981 levels by less than 1%.

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MAJOR HOME APPLIANCE FACTORY SHIPMENTS THOUSANDS OF UNITS
(Domestic Plus Export)
October, 1982

	October 1982	October 1981	% Change	Calendar Year to Date 1982	1981	% Change
ALL MAJOR APPLIANCES**	2,350.3	2,344.4*	+ 0.3%	22,667.9	26,789.2*	-15.4%
ROOM AIR CONDITIONERS	30.7	90.1	-65.9	2,602.6	3,436.3	-24.3
DEHUMIDIFIERS	2.2	- 2.1*	----	431.6	528.8*	-18.4
DISHWASHERS - TOTAL	218.0	219.8	- 0.8	1,785.8	2,174.5	-17.9
Built-In	194.2	189.5	+ 2.5	1,612.9	1,927.4	-16.3
Portable	23.8	30.3	-21.5	172.9	247.1	-30.0
DISPOSERS	339.4	333.5*	+ 1.8	2,292.1	2,774.5*	-17.4
COMPACTORS	14.6	16.0*	- 8.8	121.9	160.1*	-23.9
REFRIGERATION - TOTAL	481.1	467.9*	+ 2.8	4,978.9	5,872.7*	-15.2
Refrigerators	401.2	382.9	+ 4.8	3,791.2	4,408.6	-14.0
Freezers	79.9	85.0*	- 6.0	1,187.7	1,464.1*	-18.9
Upright	39.7	40.7*	- 2.5	542.1	655.5*	-17.3
Chest	40.2	44.4*	- 9.5	645.6	808.6*	-20.2
ELECTRIC RANGES - TOTAL	201.8	192.4*	+ 4.9	1,654.2	2,011.3*	-17.8
Free Standing	161.8	153.4*	+ 5.5	1,322.2	1,580.9*	-16.4
Built-In	40.0	39.0*	+ 2.6	332.0	430.5*	-22.9
MICROWAVE OVENS/RANGES***	470.6	435.9*	+ 8.0	3,212.6	3,616.0*	-11.2
HOME LAUNDRY - TOTAL	607.8	612.3	- 0.7	5,731.9	6,423.0	-10.8
Washers - Total	346.8	351.9	- 1.4	3,448.4	3,852.0	-10.5
Automatic	341.1	346.0	- 1.4	3,394.0	3,772.6	-10.0
Wringer & Other	5.7	5.9	- 3.4	54.3	79.4	-31.6
Dryers - Total	261.0	260.4	+ 0.2	2,283.5	2,571.0	-11.2
Electric	206.6	202.9	+ 1.8	1,796.1	2,017.8	-11.0
Gas	54.3	57.5	- 5.6	487.4	553.3	-11.9

* Revised
** Numbers do not add because of overlapping product categories
*** Includes U.S. produced and imported microwave ovens and combination microwave oven/ranges